[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

are travelling in the trains, especially on the section between Quilon and Trivandrum, without tickets?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to conduct an investigation into the matter?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that no proper scrutiny or check is exercised by the railway authorities in this direction?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) In the light of the answer to part (*a*), the necessity for the investigation does not arise.

(*c*) Government have no information. They will forward the interpellation and the answer to the South Indian Railway authorities.

Publication of Legislative Council Proceedings.

106. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara cum Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) the cause of the delay in publishing the Legislative Council Proceedings; and

(ii) whether the delay is in the Secretariat or in the Press?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (i) and (ii) The proceedings for the last session have already been issued. The delay was to a large extent due to the delay on the part of some members to return their speeches revised.

Local Purchase of Medicines.

107. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the amount which the Darbar Physician is authorised to spend at a time for local purchase of medicines?

(*b*) Has he exceeded this amount at any time, and, if so, on how many occasions?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Darbar Physician is authorised to purchase medicines locally to the extent of Rs. 25 at a time.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Swiss Milk for Hospitals.

108. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state the amount spent in 1097 and 1098 for purchasing Swiss milk and where this was purchased from?

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MR. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The amounts spent in 1097 and in 1098 up to date for the purchase of Swiss milk are :

Year		Rs.
1097	...	8,236
1098 (up to date)	...	6,367

Swiss milk is supplied by the Nestle and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co.

Promotions in the Education Department.

109. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Tovala*) : (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state on what grounds promotions to the first grade of teachers on the provincial staff are made in the Education Department ?

(*b*) Does length of service alone count ?

(*c*) Are length of teaching experience, better qualifications, work in Form VI, and production of successful results not considered ?

(*d*) Is no special consideration in the matter of promotions shown to teachers belonging to very backward classes ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) On grounds of service and efficiency.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No. An officer must rely on his own merit for promotion.

Petitions re. Promotion in the Education Department.

110. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Tovala*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether all the memorials of teachers relating to promotions to the first grade are referred to Government ?

(*b*) If not, for what reasons are they withheld ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The memorials received by the Director need not, in every case, be referred to the Government, because it is within the discretion of the head of the department to deal with them as he deems proper.

Aided Schools.

111. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the amount spent on Government schools of all grades (except colleges) and the corresponding grades of aided schools, under teaching staff, buildings and furniture, respectively during 1096 and 1097.

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